



Application No. 09/699,387
Attorney Docket No. 1272.7623 Div.I

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO ABSTRACT

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ABSTRACT

Printing on a printing medium with ink and treatment liquid having a function of setting ink, by using an apparatus which includes an ink ejection port for ejecting ink, a treatment liquid ejection port for ejecting treatment liquid, a waste liquid accommodating substance for accommodating waste liquid, a first introducing means for introducing waste ink discharged by recovery operation from the ink ejection port into a first portion of the waste liquid accommodating substance, and a second introducing means for introducing, independently of waste ink, waste treatment liquid discharged by recovery operation from the treatment liquid ejection port into a second portion separated from the first portion of the waste liquid accommodating substance [An ink jet apparatus includes first recovering means for recovering an ejecting port of a first ink jet head, second recovering means for recovering an ejecting port of a second ink jet head, a waste liquid absorbing substance for absorbing waste liquid discharged from the first recovering means and the second recovering means, first waste liquid transferring means for transferring the waste liquid discharged from the first recovering means into the waste liquid absorbing substance, and second waste liquid transferring means for transferring the waste liquid discharged from the second recovering means into the waste liquid absorbing substance, wherein a discharge end of the first waste liquid displacing means is located in vicinity of one

end of the waste liquid absorbing substance, and a discharge end of the second waste liquid displacing means is located in vicinity of other end of the waste liquid absorbing substance. Thus, even in the case that ink and waste liquid having chemical fixing/increased viscosity after completion of a reaction are absorbed in a single waste liquid absorbing substance, the latter can effectively hold the waste ink].

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